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Agenda item 68

Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Mehmet Samsar (Turkey)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled:

“Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session:

- “(a) Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters;
- “(b) United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research;
- “(c) Report of the Disarmament Commission;
- “(d) Report of the Conference on Disarmament”

was included in the provisional agenda of the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolutions S-10/2 of 30 June 1978, 38/183 O of 20 December 1983, 39/148 H of 17 December 1984 and 56/26 A and B of 29 November 2001.

2. At its 19th plenary meeting, on 20 September 2002, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 27 September 2002, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely items 57, 58 and 60 to 73, which was held at the 2nd to 10th meetings, from 30 September to 4 October and on 7, 9 and 10 October (see A/C.1/57/PV. 2-10). Thematic discussions on the items were held, and draft resolutions were introduced and considered, at the 11th to 16th meetings, from 14 to 18 October (see



A/C.1/57/PV.11-16). Action on all draft resolutions was taken at the 17th to 23rd meetings, from 21 to 23 and on 25, 28 and 29 October (see A/C.1/57/PV. 17-23).

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

- (a) Report of the Conference on Disarmament;¹
- (b) Report of the Disarmament Commission for 2002;²
- (c) Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters (A/57/335);
- (d) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (A/57/302).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.6

5. At the 12th meeting, on 15 October, the representative of Italy, on behalf of Argentina, Belarus, the Czech Republic, Ghana, Italy, Kazakhstan, Morocco and Nepal, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission" (A/C.1/57/L.6).

6. At its 19th meeting, on 23 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.6 without a vote (see para. 9, draft resolution A).

B. Draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.13

7. At the 11th meeting, on 14 October, the representative of Hungary introduced a draft resolution entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament" (A/C.1/57/L.13).

8. At its 19th meeting, on 23 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.13 without a vote (see para. 9, draft resolution B).

III. Recommendations of the First Committee

9. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/57/27).*

² *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 42 (A/57/42).

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A Report of the Disarmament Commission

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Disarmament Commission,³

Recalling its resolutions 47/54 A of 9 December 1992, 47/54 G of 8 April 1993, 48/77 A of 16 December 1993, 49/77 A of 15 December 1994, 50/72 D of 12 December 1995, 51/47 B of 10 December 1996, 52/40 B of 9 December 1997, 53/79 A of 4 December 1998, 54/56 A of 1 December 1999, 55/35 C of 20 November 2000 and 56/26 A of 29 November 2001,

Considering the role that the Disarmament Commission has been called upon to play and the contribution that it should make in examining and submitting recommendations on various problems in the field of disarmament and in the promotion of the implementation of the relevant decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session,

Bearing in mind its decision 52/492 of 8 September 1998,

1. *Takes note of the report of the Disarmament Commission;³*
2. *Reaffirms the importance of further enhancing the dialogue and cooperation among the First Committee, the Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament;*
3. *Also reaffirms the role of the Disarmament Commission as the specialized, deliberative body within the United Nations multilateral disarmament machinery that allows for in-depth deliberations on specific disarmament issues, leading to the submission of concrete recommendations on those issues;*
4. *Requests the Disarmament Commission to continue its work in accordance with its mandate, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,⁴ and with paragraph 3 of Assembly resolution 37/78 H of 9 December 1982, and to that end to make every effort to achieve specific recommendations on the items of its agenda, taking into account the adopted "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission";⁵*
5. *Recommends that the Disarmament Commission continue the consideration of the following items at its 2003 substantive session:*
 - (a) *Ways and means to achieve nuclear disarmament;*
 - (b) *Practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms;*

³ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 42 (A/57/42).

⁴ Resolution S-10/2.

⁵ A/CN.10/137.

6. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to meet for a period not exceeding three weeks during 2003, namely from 31 March to 17 April, and to submit a substantive report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Disarmament Commission the annual report of the Conference on Disarmament,⁶ together with all the official records of the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly relating to disarmament matters, and to render all assistance that the Commission may require for implementing the present resolution;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure full provision to the Disarmament Commission and its subsidiary bodies of interpretation and translation facilities in the official languages and to assign, as a matter of priority, all the necessary resources and services, including verbatim records, to that end;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission".

B

Report of the Conference on Disarmament

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Conference on Disarmament,⁷

Convinced that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community, has the primary role in substantive negotiations on priority questions of disarmament,

Recognizing the need to conduct multilateral negotiations with the aim of reaching agreement on concrete issues for negotiation,

Recalling, in this respect, that the Conference has a number of urgent and important issues for negotiation,

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Conference on Disarmament as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community;

2. *Urges* the Conference to fulfil that role in the light of the evolving international situation, with a view to making early substantive progress on priority items on its agenda;

3. *Welcomes* the strong collective interest of the Conference in commencing substantive work as soon as possible during its 2003 session;

4. *Also welcomes* the decision of the Conference to request its current President and the incoming President to conduct appropriate consultations during the intersessional period and, if possible, make recommendations, taking into account all existing proposals and views presented and discussions held in the 2002 session to achieve this goal, as expressed in paragraph 43 of its report;⁷

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure the provision to the Conference of adequate administrative, substantive and conference support services;

⁶ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/57/27).*

⁷ *Ibid.*

6. *Requests* the Conference to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament".
